

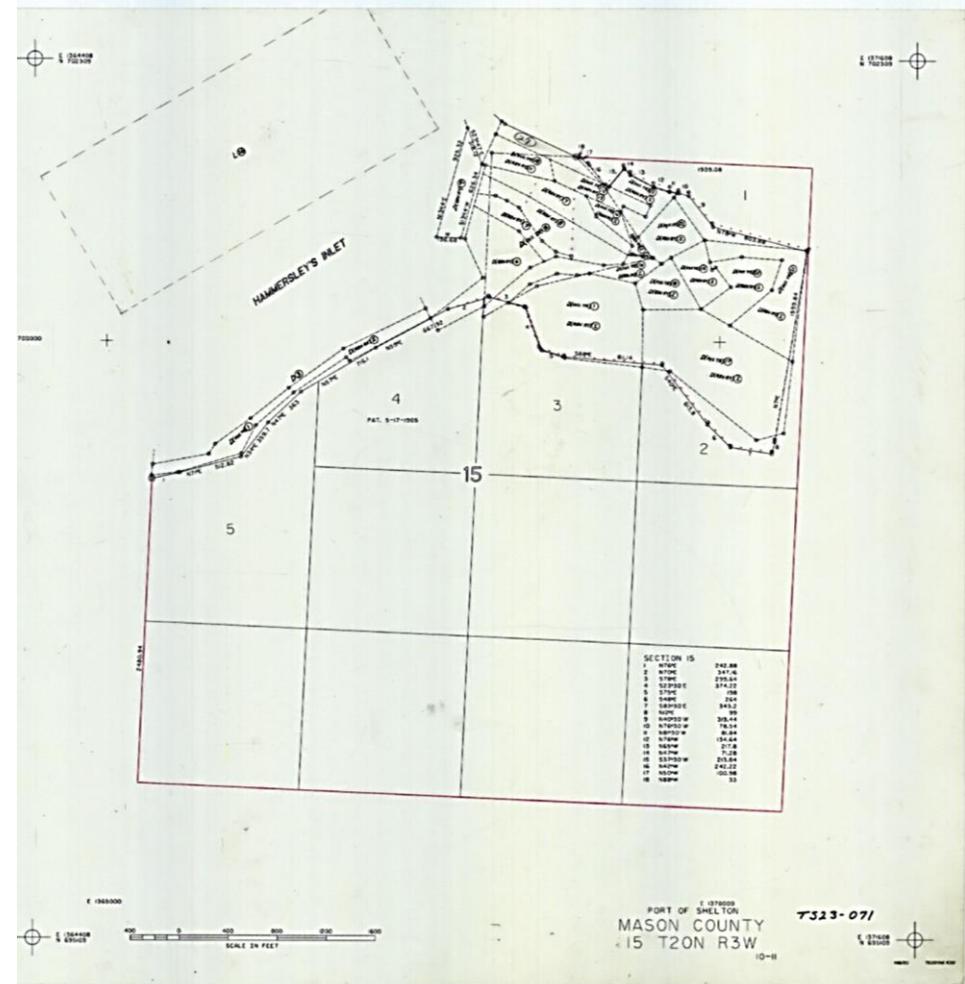
Oakland Bay *Floating Bag* *Project*

Taylor Shellfish Farms

August 9, 2023

Mason County Hearing Examiner

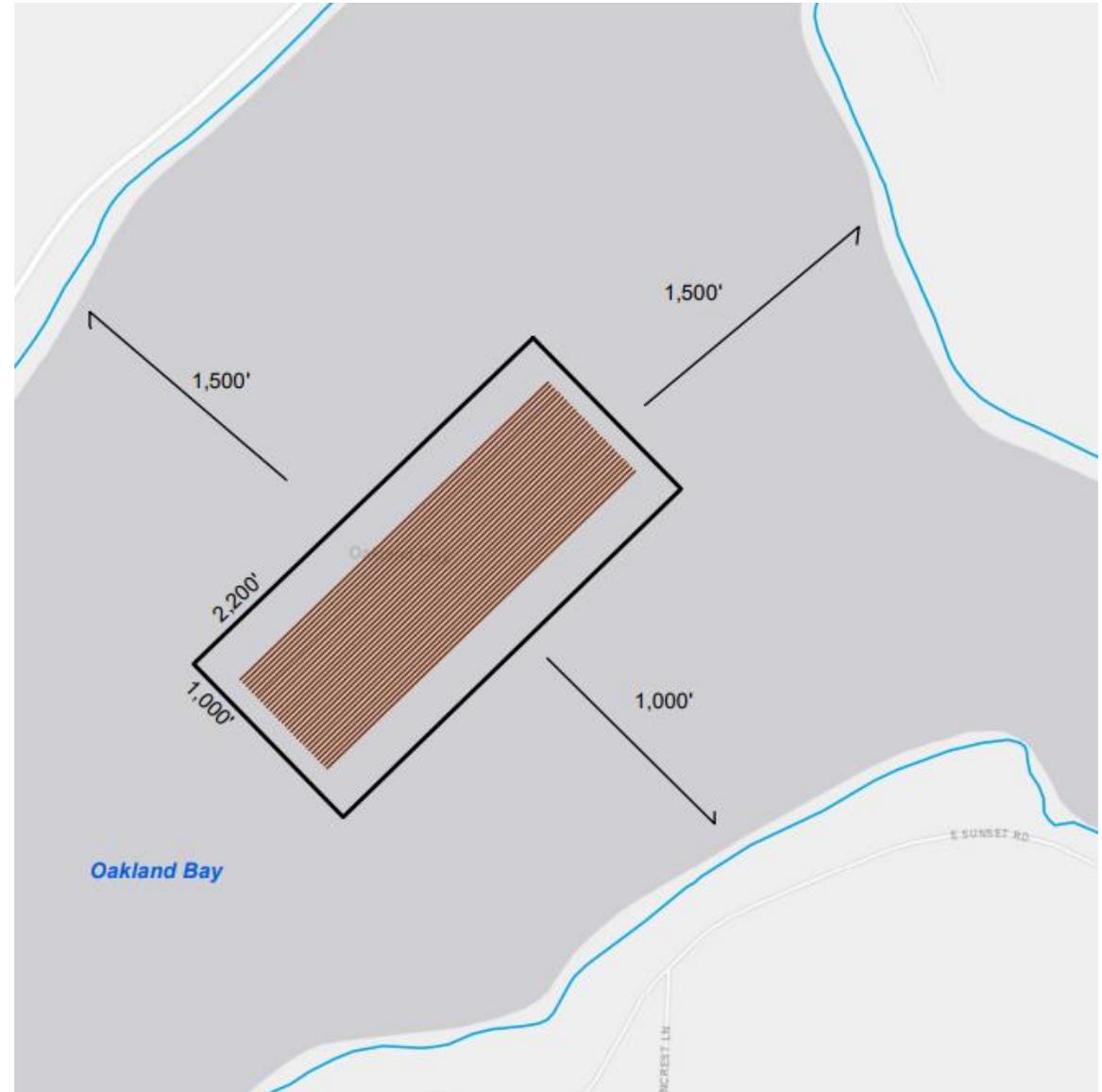


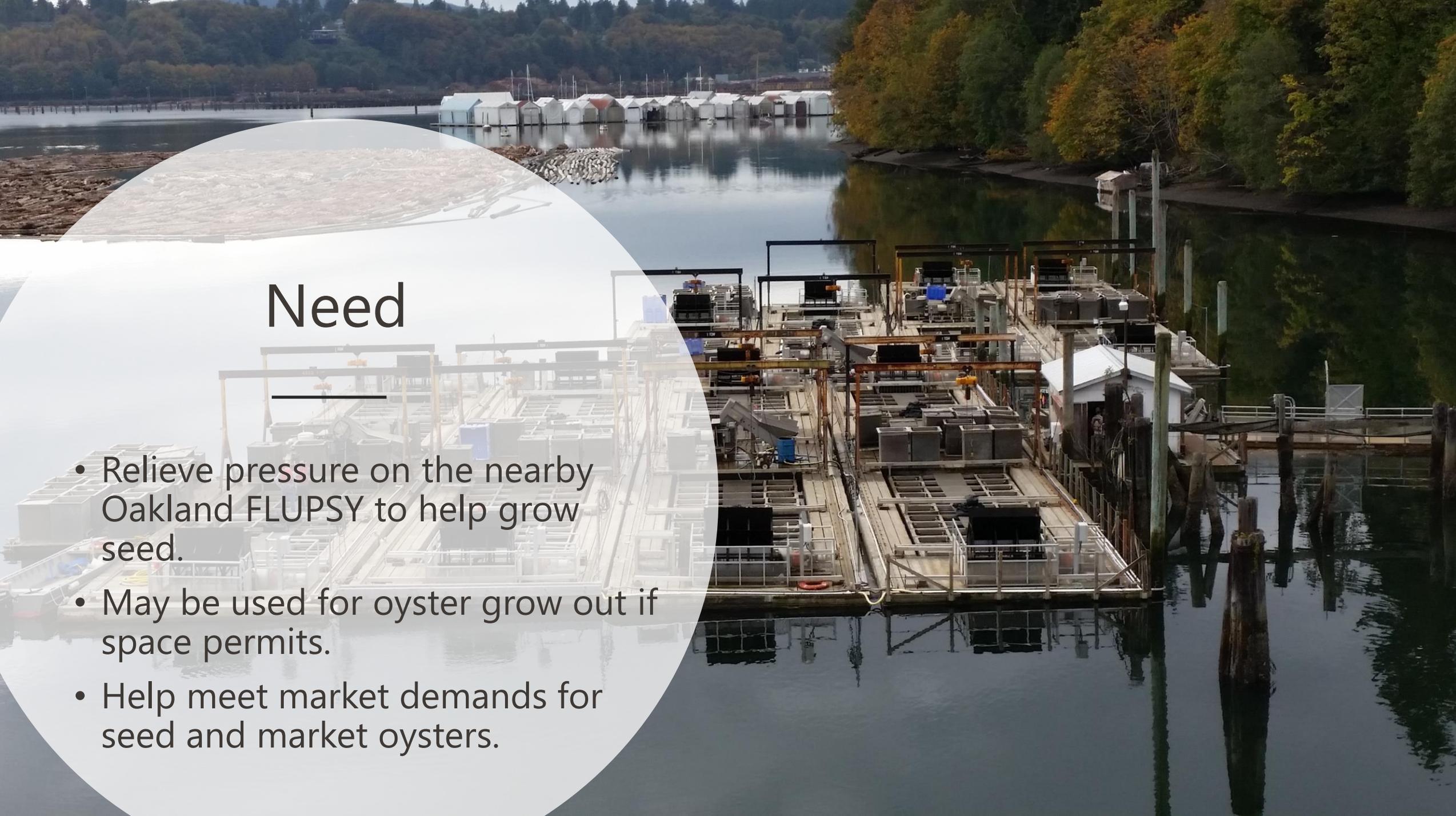


Taylor Shellfish is proposing to install a floating farm in Oakland Bay in the area formerly leased and occupied by the Simpson Timber log boom.

Farm Details

- System will be situated 1,000' – 1,500' from shoreline.
- Lease footprint is 50 acres.
- Surface area footprint is approximately 9.1 acres, with an actual production area of 4.25 acres.
- Full buildout is expected to take 2-3 years.
- 30,000 bags distributed along up to 30 double lines.



The background image shows a waterfront scene with several long wooden racks filled with oyster cages extending into the water. In the distance, a marina with many white boat covers is visible. The foreground features a large, semi-transparent circular graphic that contains the text and bullet points.

Need

- Relieve pressure on the nearby Oakland FLUPSY to help grow seed.
- May be used for oyster grow out if space permits.
- Help meet market demands for seed and market oysters.

Mason County Community Plan 2036

- *Planning for a sustainable community and economic development.*
- Mason County is Innovating and Expanding Economic Opportunity
- Population of Mason County to increase by 21,000 by 2036. Population is expected to almost double with Shelton UGA.
- This project will provide living wage jobs, with predictable hours more attractive to workers with families.
- This project is expected to compliment efforts to promote and protect water quality .



Shoreline Management Act and SMP

- Shellfish aquaculture is a preferred, water-dependent use under the SMA [RCW 90.58.020]
- Aquaculture is an activity of statewide interest that can result in long-term over short-term benefit and protect the resources and ecology of the shoreline [WAC 173-26-241(3)(b)(i)]
- Shellfish beds provide important ecological functions and are critical saltwater habitat [WAC 173-26-221(2)(c)(iii)(A)]
- Mason County SMP reiterates these uses preferences and expressly encourages aquaculture because it strengthens and diversifies the local economy [MCC 17.50.210(a)]



Conservation Measures and BMPs

- Compliance with Programmatic ESA & EFH Consultation for shellfish activities in WA
- Protections for ESA-listed species, critical habitat, and essential fish habitat
 - Water quality
 - SAV interactions
 - Species use
 - Gear management
- Compliance with BMPs to further reduce impacts





Surface floating oyster culture

- System utilized around the world.
- Proposed system has been designed and manufactured locally by Taylor Shellfish.
- Advantages: Increased seed survival, minimized fouling, increase in labor productivity and satisfaction with predictable work schedules.
- Low profile minimizes aesthetic impacts.
- Coast Guard / Navigation requirements to include appropriate markers and chart updates.
- Bags are 4' x 4' with a capacity of 5,000 (seed) to 200 (market size).



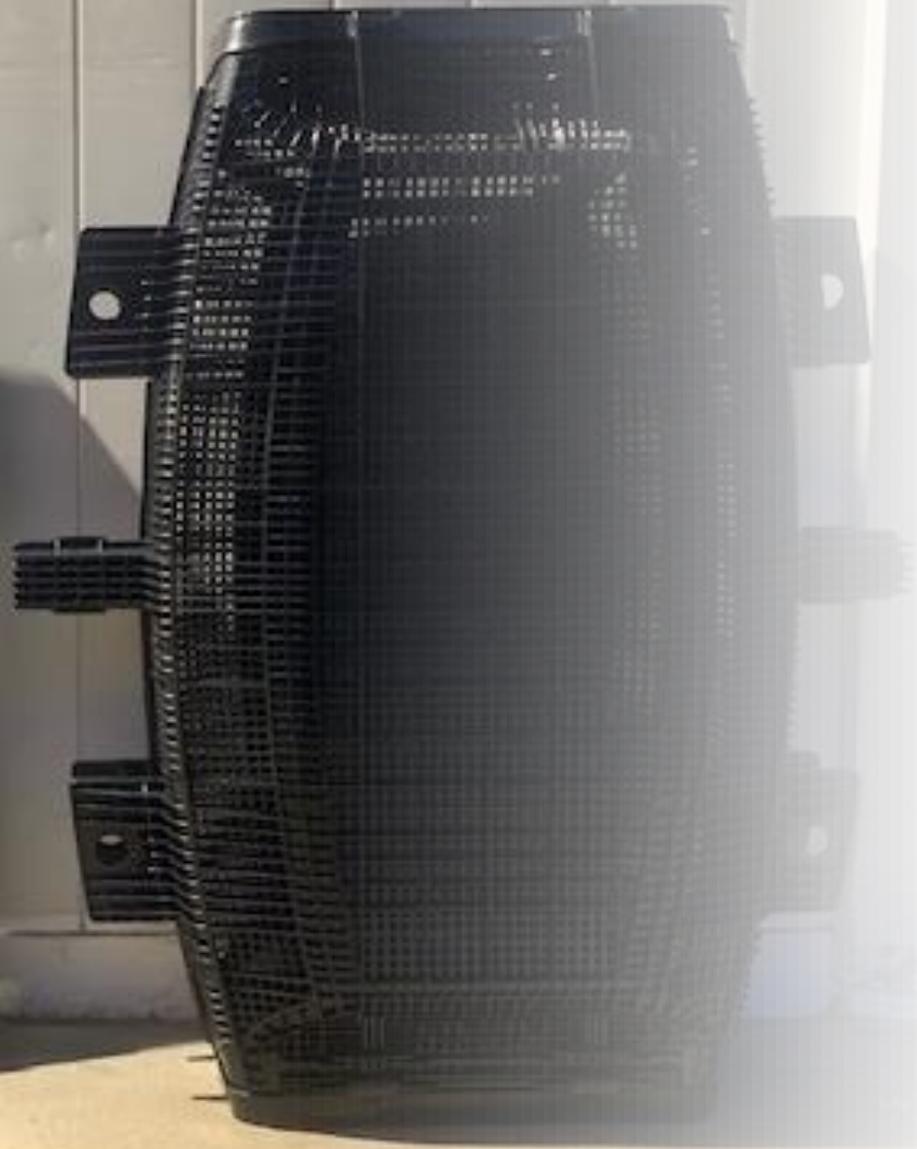






Shared Space





Plastics



Wildlife Use

Water Quality





Thank you